

Bill & Pam

Rotary International District 6440

The "Home District" Newsletter

Bill Ferreira, Governor • John Kenny, President Rotary International

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District 6440

The "Home District" Newsletter

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The purpose of this newsletter is to provide news and information about the activities of Rotary District 6440. It is for the sole use of the Rotarians who belong to the Rotary Club in District 6440.

The editors are especially interested in publishing information about successful Rotary Club programs and activities, including fundraisers, fellowship events, membership drives, and service projects. This information will be most useful to other Rotarians when it includes details about how and why the programs and activities were successful, so that they provide examples for others to follow. Send information to the District Newsletter Coordinator, Robert Paddock Jr., at rpaddock-jr@dailyherald.com. Deadline for submission: 20th of each month.

NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

Governor's Message . . . September 2009

At age 17, I had the unique experience of being a youth exchange student from Bombay to Dallas, Texas on the American Field Service (AFS) International Scholarship Program. I stayed with a family for a year as a son and brother. My neighbor who was a Rotarian, invited me to speak at his Rotary club. There, I met another youth exchange student who had come on the Rotary Youth Exchange Program from Brazil. We became friends right away. We compared notes and soon discovered we both had the same mission: To serve as ambassadors of goodwill, promoting peace and understanding between our countries.

During my year in Dallas, I spoke at numerous Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis clubs and met youth exchange students from every continent. I soon realized by walking together, talking together, we can make this world a better place.

My experience as a youth exchange student proved to be a life-changing event. It helped to shape my perspective of the world and build values that have impacted my life to this day. Attending the Central States Rotary Youth Exchange Summer Conference in Grand Rapids, Mich., the last two years, has only served to reinforce my belief and confidence in our youth. At this CSRYE conference (July 10-12, 2009) students from our country going to another country to study for a year (Outbounds), gather to meet and learn from U.S. students who have just returned from a year of study in another country (Rebounds). They also meet students from other countries who have come to the U.S. for a year of study (Inbounds).

R. I. President John Kenny has said: "The impression of youth are strong and they are lasting. These young people will have formed connections and affections that will endure." As we commemorate "New Generations Month," let us remind ourselves that Rotary has the best youth programs in the world: EarlyAct, Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE). Many clubs in our district sponsor several of these programs (See District 6440 Youth Exchange News in this newsletter). Our Rotary clubs have a long tradition of participating in these programs and I thank you for your continued support. Let us work together to achieve our district goal of forming 3 new Interact clubs, two new Rotaract clubs, an EarlyAct club, increasing participation in youth exchange by 10% and in RYLA by 20%.

*Today's youth are Rotary's future.
The Future of Rotary
Is In Your Hands.*



Youth Exchange Students enjoying a game of Volleyball



Gov. Bill welcoming Youth Exchange Students to the Y.E. party.



Rotarians enjoying the fellowship at the Rotary evening at Ravinia.



Anne-Sophie, Youth Exchange Student from Belgium enjoying the music at Ravinia.

District 6440 Youth Exchange News

The youth exchange committee would like to thank district leadership for all of the support they have expressed for youth exchange. Our district is one of 17 that comprise Central States Youth Exchange and every July we participate in a 1,100 person conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There, our current inbound students who are at the end of their stay, the American rebound students who have just returned from their year abroad, and the anxious American outbound students who are preparing to leave for their adventure, and the parents of the last two groups, all interact with Rotarian volunteers and each other in the spirit of Rotary exchange. We are happy to say that this year D.G. Bill Ferreira and his wife Pam, D.G.-Elect Bruce Baumberger and his wife Nancy, and D.G.-Nominee Carlos Frum and his wife Sandy (in photo above with youth exchange committee) all attended the conference to experience the contagious enthusiasm of these young leaders of tomorrow. Rotary President John Kenny, a strong supporter of youth exchange, addressed the crowd and made a special stop at our district meeting, escorted by Gordon and Margery Schrubbe.



We also want to thank the 21 clubs in our district who have stepped up to host inbound students this year. Below is the list of students, their countries and their clubs:

- Jerryl from India hosted by Antioch
- Hank from Taiwan hosted by Buffalo Grove and Wheeling
- Naz from Turkey hosted by Cary Grove
- Filip from Croatia hosted by Geneva
- Ploy from Thailand hosted by Huntley
- Niko from Germany hosted by Lake Forest/Lake Bluff
- Maira from Brazil hosted by Libertyville
- Ink from Thailand hosted by Northbrook
- Audrey from Belgium hosted by Schaumburg/Hoffman Estates
- Pierre-Eric from France hosted by Wheaton
- Taru from Finland hosted by Woodstock Noon
- Cristobal from Chile hosted by Barrington
- Oswaldo from Mexico hosted by Carol Stream
- Anne-Sophie from Belgium hosted by Crystal Lake
- Elena from Germany hosted by Gurnee
- Pame from Chile hosted by Illinois Beach Sunrise
- Peter from Brazil hosted by Lake in the Hills
- Hernan from Peru hosted by Lincolnshire Morning Star
- Alejandra from Paraguay hosted by Palatine
- Binish from India hosted by Evanston
- Lucas from Brazil hosted by Wilmette Harbor



District Governor Bill and his wife Pam graciously held a welcome party at their home for the new inbound students to meet each other, the exchange committee and other Rotary guests. We are looking forward to a great year with our inbounds and want to remind all clubs to contact Bill Summers at bsummers@rye6440.org if they have not yet made a commitment for a student for 2010-11. We recommend it!!

We also strongly recommend that all clubs start the recruitment process now for outbound students from their local communities. Andrew Knox is the Outbound Coordinator for our district and can be contacted at aknox@rye6440.org for ideas for recruitment and details on the application process. The outbound applications (look on www.rye6440.org for the link to them) are due October 15th, and the interviews will take place in early November. The students you recruit will thank you later for this life-changing experience.

Sincerely,

The Youth Exchange Committee

Bill Summers, Martha Weiss, Alexis Portugal, Andrew Knox, Kevin Lyons, Siru Knox, Steve Chervenky, Joe Nordstrom and Ian Lamp.

- Call for Group Study Exchange (GSE) Applications -

Attention ALL Club PRESIDENTS, FOUNDATION CHAIR and ROTARIANS !!!!!!!!!!!

This years GSE TEAM is going to BRAZIL and do you have your application in?? Let's work together to send a great team to Brazil as part of our GSE program. Applications are currently being accepted for both team leader and team members. Also, due to the Labor Day Holiday we have extended the deadline for the applications until SEPTEMBER 20TH.

GSE is a great opportunity to be ambassadors of goodwill in both the business and professional world. By working together, we can make this year a great success.

For application forms, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Larry Penar, GSE Chair at rotary-gse@sbcglobal.net, or phone me at 847-366-2859. You may also contact Dr. Mark Parisi, Outbound Coordinator, at markdparisi@aol.com or phone him at 847-909-9858. All applications should be sent to:

Larry Penar • 429 Tallgrass Circle • Lake Zurich, IL 60047 (or email it to me.)

WHAT ROTARY MEANS TO ME

By Don Van Arsdale

formerly of the Winnetka-Northfield Rotary Club and soon to be a member of the Glencoe Rotary Club

In these rapidly changing, technological times, I count on my Rotary Club to provide me with a sense of community and purpose. Each week I meet with old friends and we discuss the issues of the day, learn about personal family achievements and sorrows. This sense of camaraderie and fellowship is important as it provides a normalcy I can count on for comfort. As we are always looking for new members, this list of friends continues to enrich the fabric of our club and my life. Our weekly programs are educational, informative and fun. I can count on learning something new every week and look forward to the ritual of the corny jokes, birthday singing, etc.



The local, regional and international projects completed by our club are notable. I am always impressed at the willingness of our members to pitch in and lend a hand to startup, assist or fund a charitable project that will improve the lives of individuals that they'll probably never meet. I love the idea that a single Rotarian can create a project and with a little work - provide (for example) fresh water or wheel chairs or micro lending to countries all around the world.

I have been very involved in the Group Study Exchange (GSE) and enjoyed meeting and hosting visitors from several countries. It is always fun to show off our wonderful city and take them to unique places like the original Billy Goat Tavern or on an architectural tour. We form fast friendships and it always hard to say goodbye when they leave. I trust that upon returning to their native country they have wonderful stories to tell about their time in District 6440.

The professional contacts I have made through Rotary have been invaluable in advancing my career in my small town. I can count on meeting the civic, professional and business leaders and have a "first name" relationship. This positive familiarity has greatly enhanced my abilities to accomplish the goals of my employer.

How to Achieve a Paul Harris Fellow With a \$500 Contribution to The Rotary Foundation

To achieve Paul Harris Fellow status a Rotarian must contribute (or have contributed in their name) a minimum of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation's (TRF) Annual Programs Fund, PolioPlus, or a specific Matching Grant, at one time or by accumulation. For a limited time, District 6440 Rotarians can obtain their first Paul Harris Fellow with a \$500 check, payable to "The Rotary Foundation," and your contribution will be matched with 500 Foundation Recognition Points (FRPs)! This combination of contribution and FRPs will bring you to the \$1,000 amount needed to qualify as a Paul Harris Fellow.

Interested Rotarians should send their \$500 check with a completed TRF Global Contribution Form [123-EN] (www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/123en_write.pdf) to:

Rotarian Ann Hughes • 15202 McIntyre Lane • Woodstock IL 60098

Ann will verify your contribution, process the FRP match, and forward it to the Foundation. (Do not send it to the Foundation yourself).

Time is limited, so act quickly, please. Questions? Contact Ann by phone or email to: (815) 338-4046 or annshughes@att.net, or call D-6440 Annual Giving Chair, Walter Reed, at (847) 251-7973



Governor Bill continues his official club visits

Meet the Chervený Family

Rotary Youth Exchange Host Family

Maggie (age 10) is an only child with five brothers and sisters, and one more on the way. This is typically how we explain our family dynamics. Since 2003, our family has participated in the Rotary Exchange Program as a host family. Here's a quick snapshot look at our "whole" family.

Our "oldest son," Lennart is from Germany and he didn't disappoint us. He brought with him that stereotypically stubborn German male attitude. We were greatly entertained by the sibling fights that would break out, with no one giving in. What amused us most was Lenny actually thinking he could win the argument, against the logic of then 5-year old Maggie.

Our "daughter" Germana arrived from Brazil in summer 2005. Her arrival brought new challenges, plus great joy. Her English was non-existent and our Portuguese was pretty much the same. What we quickly learned was that if you had a common interest, no language barrier would get in the way. Germana, like so many exchange students, fully immersed herself into learning our language and then the flood gates opened. She is such an outgoing young lady with strong convictions. She taught us that all Brazilians "love to party", but mostly we learned a great deal about her compassion and caring for others, and it has rubbed off on our family, especially Maggie.

Siri, our stereotypically tall, beautiful, blond "daughter" from Sweden (no surprise there) has a zest for living life and experiencing it to the fullest. She arrived in the summer of 2006, ready for adventure, but missing her family back home. Soon after she arrived, she told us that she wanted to experience Starbucks. We did her one better. She did have her very first Starbucks, but she had to wait until October, so that she could experience it at the original Starbucks in Seattle (we happened to be going there for a conference). She will tell you that it was worth the wait, including all the incredible experiences she had at Pike Place Market.

Our next "daughter," Miki from Thailand arrived on a hot summer day in 2007. We learned early on that she was here to see what it was like to be an American teenager. She jumped right into the social part of high school, by signing up to be a "Super Fan" at the high school football games. All boys were cute, especially if they had blond hair and blue eyes (hard to find in Thailand). Miki was friends with everyone. This was evident through her constant texting, the 300 plus "local" friends on her social network site, and the fact that she was voted prom queen of Cary-Grove High School. Miki lived her American dream and we were able to share in all of the peaks and valleys of her experience.

Our youngest son, Milan arrived in August 2008 from Slovakia. His mild manner and interest in family activities quickly revealed that this was not going to be another "high-maintenance" student. The brother and sister dynamics between Milan and Maggie are a parent's dream. Milan's interest in Sims and Stargate-Atlantis are now passions of Maggie's, and Maggie's trampoline escapades and watching the TV show Heroes are now favorites of Milan's as well. He loved school for all the interesting discussions, labs and project work. If he had been at Cary-Grove HS for four years, I think he would have given the class valedictorian a run for his money. Milan's "American Dream" is to come back to the States for college and become a surgeon. It would be nice to have more of our family close by.

We are just like any "regular" family. We brag about our kids to whoever will listen, we disagree, we celebrate successes, but most of all we embrace the cultural differences. We are truly blessed with the opportunity to share our lives with these outstanding young adults (bragging again!). Our world is much smaller, and yet so much larger as well.

These experiences as a host family are usually typical of other host family experiences. There are exceptions and horror stories that we all may have heard. To us, however, the sharing and life experiences, positive and sometimes negative, are all part of learning about the world we live in. Every student is different and brings a unique addition to our family.



Welcome New Rotarians:

Caroline Felix and Dieneba Soma,
Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse

Kirsten Mormino,
Rotary Club of Lincolnshire

Cynthia Wroble,
Rotary Club of Lake Zurich

Steve McAllister
Rotary Club of St. Charles Breakfast



Chris Warren of the Elgin Noon
Club and Mary Geragach of the
Palatine Club with Governor Bill
at the house of friendship in
Birmingham, England

Please read the October issue of the "Home District" Newsletter on the district website: www.rotary6440.org

Meet Assistant District Governor Ben Brown

Ben Brown's goal as assistant district governor is to help Doers! By that, he means getting information and ideas to those in the clubs who are doing the work. All of his Rotary time has been putting himself at other's service.



Ben's Rotary experience began by seeing a Rotary sign in a neighbor's window, and seeking to network with other business people, he went to the noon meeting of the Rotary Club of Elgin. That neighbor, Jerry Levine, introduced him to President Bob Leitner who sponsored him as a member in February 1990.

Incoming President Del Johnston did not even wait to be sworn in before he asked Ben to help out in the Youth Exchange Program. Ben enjoyed it so well, that he and his generous wife Jeannine had 14 students live at their home in the next 10 years. Students from Australia, Japan, Belgium, France, Denmark, Brazil and Mexico found a kind welcome in the Brown home.

Ben was president of the Noon Rotary in 96-97 year, and went to Scotland for the Rotary International Convention. There he met Olive and Howard Ponsford from Wales, and he and Jeannine traveled to their home for an extended visit. This same couple were guests at the Brown home during the 100th Anniversary Conference in Chicago.

The Browns have hosted the GSE team members from England, New Zealand and Australia. During the Bosnian conflict, the Browns helped host a group of Bosnian dancers in a cultural exchange. The Friendship Exchange has brought groups from South Africa and Australia to them, and one time a group of Rotary Governors from California stayed.

During his year as club president, Ben spearheaded the purchase and distribution of 500 bears (with shirts with the Rotary logo) to police and first responder personnel who deal with children in emergencies. With several other clubs, gently used hospital supplies were sent to Mexican hospitals.

In March '08, Jack Jangelis, of the Batavia Club, asked Ben to consider becoming an assistant governor. He went to the introductory meeting and decided that was where he could be the most help for Rotarians. He was assigned The Crystal Lake noon club, the Richmond/Spring Grove evening club, and the Elgin AM club. With the commissioning of the new Carpentersville Morning club, (which he helped to form) Ben now has four places to attend, listen and offer assistance. He calls his territory the Northwest Coast of District 6440!

Ben's favorite example of how he works is how he helped the Elgin AM club get additional funding for a project. It had planned to support a clean water project in Karachi Pakistan and had \$2,850 to start it. Ben suggested they go for a matching grant in the district. Then Rotary International stepped in and the \$13,000 is now building 52 wells.

Ben has seen many changes in Rotary in the 19 years he has been a member. He is happy women have been invited and have become such an integral part of clubs. He sees that training has been made more available and pertinent. Though membership is down in some clubs, the same thing brings new members in---enthusiasm. The Internet has made the exchange of information much easier. He believes that we don't support each other as well as we should---a timely pat on the back is a great motivator.

Ben and Jeannine will celebrate 50 years of marriage in this coming April, and she is his true partner in the many Rotary endeavors he has undertaken in these 19 years. The true spirit of Rotary---helping where needed!

Northbrook Rotary Club END POLIO NOW projects!

Rubber Ducky Race:

On June 30th, 2009 over 2,000 rubber duckys hit the water in downtown Northbrook for the 6th Annual Northbrook Rotary Riverchance. Each duck was purchased for \$5 or "quack packs" were available for \$25. Cash prizes were awarded to the ticket purchasers of the fastest three ducks. With over 2,000 ducks in the water, over \$8,600 was collected in ticket sales making this the most successful Ducky Race yet! All proceeds from the event went to Northbrook Rotary's Charitable Projects Fund for Rotary International's Polio eradication efforts and the club's International projects. A check for \$5,000 was presented to the District 6440 Governor, William Ferreira, at the Northbrook Rotary Club's Installation Dinner.



Pinkies for Polio:

Many Northbrook residents were walking around with painted pinkies on July 4th, 2009. The painted pinkie nail was actually a fundraiser by the Northbrook Rotary Club to raise money for Polio vaccinations. For a \$1 donation, two children can be vaccinated against the crippling disease. At the pancake breakfast on July 4th, The Northbrook Rotary Club raised approx. \$350 to help END POLIO NOW!



Popcorn and Hot dogs for Polio:

Northbrook Rotarians staffed the hot dog cart at Art In The Park, an event sponsored by The Northbrook Arts Commission, to raise funds to End Polio Now. The proceeds from the hot dog sales were split between the Northbrook Arts Commission and Northbrook Rotary's efforts to End Polio Now. Approx. \$350 was raised to help END POLIO NOW.



Talk Rotary

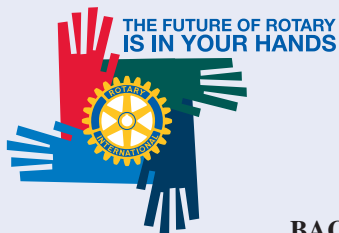
Every
Club
Every
Quarter
Net 1 New Member



**Don't Leave Home
Without Your Rotary Pin**

• Service
• Fellowship
• Fun





DISTRICT 6440

THE ABCs OF ROTARY

Friday, September 25, 2009
Rotary International Headquarters
Evanston, Illinois

I'M A ROTARIAN - - NOW WHAT? BACK TO BASICS - FEATURING THE FOUR AREAS OF SERVICE YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!!

7:30 A.M. OPTIONAL NO-HOST BREAKFAST, Rotary International Cafe
8:30 A.M. CHECK-IN, 3rd Floor Atrium
9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER, 3rd Floor Auditorium
12:45 P.M. ADJOURN

WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT AS OUR GUEST SPEAKER
RUSSELL VANDENBROUCKE,
A WORLD PEACE FELLOW AND GRADUATE OF CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY
FIND YOUR PASSION FOR SERVICE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!
BE INSPIRED BY STORIES TOLD AND KNOWLEDGE SHARED!
EXPAND YOUR ROTARY HORIZONS - THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS!

ALL FOR ONLY \$20.00 PER PERSON

ABCs of Rotary on September 25, 2009

Club Name: _____ # of registrants on this form _____

Rotarian Name(s): _____

Guest Name(s): _____

Please enclose check for \$20.00 per person made out to Rotary District 6440. Return form and check by September 18, 2009, to:

Charlotte Ogorek • 1119 W. Touhy Ave. • Park Ridge, IL 60068

Rotarians are encouraged to register ahead of time. Walk-ins are welcome with payment at the door.



ROTARY DISTRICT 6440 FOUNDATION SEMINAR 2009

Friday, November 6, 2009
The Cotillion Banquets
360 South Creekside
(Rt. 14 & 1/2 Block West of 53)
Palatine, IL 60074

Registration
8:00 am – 9:00 am
Presentations
9:00 am – 12:00 noon
Lunch
12:30 pm
Keynote: John Osterlund
General Manager of TRF

For ALL Rotarians...especially
Foundation Chairs, Club Presidents,
Pres. Elect, Int'l Chairs, CS Chairs

REGISTRATION FORM

Complete and Mail one form for each person to
Al Viehman, 614 Cherbourg Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
with check in the amount of \$25.00 per person, payable to
The Rotary Club of Buffalo Grove by November 1, 2009.

NAME: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

CLUB: _____

Telephone: Primary _____ Secondary _____

Email: _____

Rotary Position: _____

It's okay to have more than one person from each club ... in fact,
Governor Bill highly encourages at least 2 people from each club!

DON'T MISS THIS SEMINAR -- YOUR CLUB DESERVES TO KNOW!

